

and said at least one polyurethane polymer is a chain extended product formed using:

- D1
- (A) a prepolymer component comprising an isocyanate-terminated polyurethane prepolymer, said component being formed from reactants which comprise:
    - (i) at least one organic polyisocyanate,
    - (ii) at least one isocyanate-reactive compound providing said poly(ethylene oxide) groups in the resulting polyurethane polymer, and
    - (iii) at least one isocyanate-reactive compound providing said acid-functional groups in the resulting polyurethane polymer, and
  - (B) an active hydrogen component comprising at least one active hydrogen chain-extending compound.
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25. (Twice Amended) Aqueous solution of at least one polyurethane polymer which is soluble in water at temperatures between 5 and 35 °C, said at least one polymer comprising:

2 to 35 weight %, based on the weight of polyurethane polymer, of poly(ethylene oxide) groups which have a chain length(s) corresponding to a number average molecular weight within the range of from 300 to 3,000 Daltons;

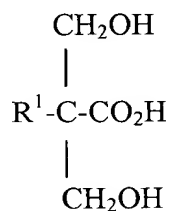
D2  
15 to 150 millequivalents, per 100g of polyurethane polymer, of acid-functional groups; and wherein

at least 50 weight% of the acid-functional groups are neutralised, such neutralisation being with at least one base, at least part of which is at least one non-volatile base;

and said at least one polyurethane polymer is a chain extended product formed using:

- (A) a prepolymer component comprising an isocyanate-terminated polyurethane prepolymer, said component being formed from reactants which comprise:
    - (i) at least one organic polyisocyanate,
    - (ii) at least one isocyanate-reactive compound providing said poly(ethylene oxide) groups in the resulting polyurethane polymer, and
    - (iii) at least one isocyanate-reactive compound providing said acid-functional groups in the resulting polyurethane polymer, and
  - (B) an active hydrogen component comprising at least one active hydrogen chain-extending compound.
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D3 33. (Amended) Process according to claim 30 wherein the isocyanate-reactive compound providing acid functional groups in step I is a dihydroxyalkanoic acid of formula



where  $\text{R}^1$  is hydrogen or alkyl.

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45. (Twice Amended) Polyurethane polymer which has:

2 to 35 weight %, based on the weight of polyurethane polymer, of poly(ethylene oxide) groups which have a chain length(s) corresponding to a number average molecular weight within the range of from 300 to 3000 Daltons;

15 to 150 milliequivalents, per 100g of polyurethane polymer, of acid-functional groups; and wherein

D4 at least 50 weight% of the acid-functional groups are neutralised, such neutralisation being with a base(s) at least part of which is a non-volatile base(s); and said polyurethane polymer being a chain extended product formed using:

(A) a prepolymer component comprising an isocyanate-terminated polyurethane prepolymer, said component being formed from reactants which comprise :

- (i) at least one organic polyisocyanate;
  - (ii) at least one isocyanate-reactive compound providing said poly(ethylene oxide) groups in the resulting polyurethane polymer; and
  - (iii) at least one isocyanate-reactive compound providing said acid-functional groups in the resulting polyurethane polymer,
- and

(B) an active hydrogen component comprising an active hydrogen chain-extending compound(s);

and, wherein said polyurethane polymer is capable of forming a water-soluble film which is soluble in water at temperatures between 5° and 35° C.

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*See the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the above claim(s).*